

**In the Claims**

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29. (New) A bone joining implant, comprising;

a tubular body having an open leading end and a central aperture, the central aperture similarly sized to the open leading end, the open leading end communicating with the central aperture and configured to entrap a bone projection from each of a pair of adjacent bone bodies being joined together; and

a plurality of retaining tabs provided on an outer surface of the tubular body and configured to retain the implant between the pair of adjacent bone bodies.